(b) No Sri Lankan Tamils were repatriated in January, 1987 as hostilities between the Sri Lankan Army and the LTTE were in full swing at that time.

Withdrawal of Indian Peace Keeping Force from Sri Lanka

1015. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to withdraw Indian Peace Keeping Force from Sri Lanka in the near future; and

(b) what are the details of the steps being taken by Sri Lanka Government and the Government of India to arrive at a political solution of the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The IPKF is in Sri Lanka at the request of the Sri Lankan Government on the specific mission of implementing the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and assure the security and safety of all communities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. The duration of the IPKF's stay in Sri Lanka should be seen in this perspective.

(b) The Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement of July 29, 1987 to establish peace and narmalcy in Sri Lanka is a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. Both, the Sri Lankan Government and the Government of India have been concentrating their energies on the implementation of the Agreement.

Discriminatory and biased Policies of Malaysia Government towards the Indians

1016. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the potentially alarming situation for the people of Indian origin in Malaysia with the discriminatory and biased policies of the Malaysian Government towards the ethnic Indians;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to safeguard the interest of the ethnic Indians in Malaysia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) Government are aware that under the new economic policy introduced in 1970, the Malaysian Government have taken certain measures in the fields of education, employment etc., for the upliftment of ethnic Malays who in their view, have remained backward due to historical reasons. As these measures affect Malaysian nationals only, the question of the Government of India taking any steps does not arise.

Enfield Rifles sold to British Arms Dealer

1017. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI K. MOHANAN:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the recent revelation about

60,000 Enfield number 4 rifles (.303) sold by the Ministry of Defence to a British arms dealer and shipped to a port in U.K. in 1983 never reached the scheduled destination and instead were diverted to Pakistan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the diversion of the consignment of rifles; if so, what is the outcome thereof and the reaction of the Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Some repairable Enfield number 4 rifles (.303) were sold to a U.K. Company in 1983 against an import licence issued by the Government of U.K. for shipment to U.K. These rifles were reportedly diverted on high seas. The ultimate destination of the rifles is not known.

Financial Assistance to Foreign Countries

1018. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of countries to whom financial assistance have been given by the Government of India during the last three years;

(b) the total amount of financial assistance given by Government to these countries during this period;

(c) whether agreements have been reached between the Government of India and the Governments of these countries for future aids; and

(d) if so, what is the nature of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K NATWAR SINGH): (a) Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Kampuchea, Laos, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

(b) A statement regarding details of economic assistance given to these countries during the last three years is attached. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

Details of financial assistance (Grant/credit) given by government of India during the last three Years

	Name of Country	Amount
1.	Bangladesh	2.29 Crores
2.	Bhutan	206.46 Crores
3.	Burma	10 Crores
4.	Kampuchea	1.27 Crores
5.	Laos	60 L khs
6.	Maldives	20 Crores
7.	Mauritius	5 Crores
8.	Nepal	39.88 Crores
9.	Nicaragua	12.5 Crores
10.	Sri Lanka	50 Crores
11.	Vietnam	27.016 Crores

Publication of Biographies of National Heroes

1019. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question 2779 on 3rd December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the names of such persons or national heroes who have sacrificed their lives for the nation alongwith their brief biographical